

09/490,783

authenticating the customer having caused a draft to be executed for payment of at least one of a purchase price of the item and a shipping cost by encrypting at least a portion of an identification data provided by the customer and successfully matching the encrypted identification data with the stored encrypted unique identifier;

retrieving at least the authenticated customer's financial information and delivery address;

honoring a draft presented by the vendor for payment of the item only when the customer is successfully authenticated by the bank;

generating a package code for the item, the generated package code being devoid of delivery address information;

*Cont*  
*B1* associating the retrieved delivery address to the generated package code

sending only the package code to the vendor, the vendor affixing the package code to the package, and

sending the package code and the associated delivery address to a shipper for storage in a shipper database, whereby the shipper picks up the item from the vendor, and prints out a shipping label for the package, a delivery address on the label being that customer address linked to a package code stored in the shipper database that matches the package code affixed to the package.

*and*  
--27. (Amended) A method of enabling a customer having purchased goods in digital form from a vendor to have the goods delivered to a specified electronic delivery address without divulging the electronic delivery address to the vendor, comprising the steps of: